

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of characterizing relative risks associated with a plurality of financial products performed on a computer having a hardware processor, comprising the steps of:

identifying one or more risk classes associated with the plurality of financial products by using an input device of the computer;

determining, for each of the risk classes, an expected occurrence rate by the processor;

dividing the expected occurrence rates determined by said step of determining by an average rate by the processor ~~to and determining~~ determine a relative risk ratio for each of the risk classes based on the expected occurrence rates;

calculating correlated risk ratios between at least two of the risk classes that are identified in said step of identifying ~~to determine and determining~~ a dependence between the at least two different risk classes based on the correlated risk ratios; and

comparing the relative risk ratios and the correlated risk ratios by the processor with empirical data ~~to and generating~~ generate comparative risk data to characterize the relative risks associated with the plurality of products based on the relative risk ratios and the correlated risk ratios;

correcting the relative risk ratios in a case the comparative risk data is out of a defined range comparing with the empirical data; and

storing the corrected risk ratios to a storage unit of the computer.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said one or more risk

classes are associated with one or more criteria, and further comprising the step of:

modifying one or more of said criteria and repeating said steps of determining, dividing, calculating and comparing ~~to~~ and determining ~~determine~~ an impact of said modification on the relative risks associated with the products.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of said risk classes are associated with different criteria, and wherein said relative risk ratios are used to compare said risk classes.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

using the relative risk ratio ~~to redefine~~ for redefining one or more of said risk classes.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

determining a separate relative risk ratio for sub-groups of risks.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

storing data in a data storage of said computer relating to prevalence of criteria associated with said risk classes; ~~for use in and~~

determining the relative risk ratios based on the prevalence of the criteria associated with the risk classes.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 6, further comprising the step

of:

comparing the prevalence data to industry empirical data for particular combinations of criteria; and, ~~if necessary,~~
adjusting the stored data to agree with the empirical data.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

storing data relating to the expected occurrence rates ~~for use in~~; and
determining the relative risk ratios based on the expected occurrence rates.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of:

adjusting the corrected risk ratios to agree with the empirical data.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:

using the relative risk ratio to determine an impact on a risk class of including in that class one or more risks that do not meet one or more of the criteria associated with that class.

Claims 11-20 (Cancelled).

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A system having a hardware processor for characterizing relative risks associated with a plurality of financial products, comprising:

an identifying unit operating on ~~the hardware processor~~ an input device of the system
for identifying one or more risk classes associated with the plurality of financial products;

a determining unit operating on the hardware processor for determining, for each of the risk classes, an expected occurrence rate;

a dividing unit operating on the hardware processor for dividing the expected occurrence rates by an average rate ~~to~~ and determining ~~determine~~ a relative risk ratio for each of the risk classes;

a calculating unit operating on the hardware processor for calculating correlated risk ratios between at least two of the risk classes that are identified in said step of identifying and ~~to determine~~ determining a dependence between the at least two different risk classes;

a comparing unit operating on the hardware processor for comparing the relative risk ratios and the correlated risk ratios with empirical data and generating ~~to generate~~ comparative risk data to characterize the relative risks associated with the plurality of products;

a correcting unit operating on the hardware processor for correcting the relative risk ratios in a case the comparative risk data is out of a defined range comparing with the empirical data; and

a storage unit of the ~~computer system~~ computer system for storing the corrected risk ratios.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 21, wherein said one or more risk classes are associated with one or more criteria, and further comprising:

a modifying unit for modifying one or more of said criteria and re-determining the relative risk ratio ~~to~~ and for determining ~~determine~~ an impact of said modification on the relative risks associated with the products.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 21, wherein one or more of said risk classes are associated with different criteria, and said comparing unit compares the risk classes based on ~~wherein said relative risk ratios are used to compare said risk classes.~~

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 21, further comprising:
a calculation unit ~~for using the relative risk ratio~~ configured to redefine one or more of said risk classes based on the relative risk ratio.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 21, further comprising:
a determining unit for determining a separate relative risk ratio for sub-groups of risks.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 21, further comprising:
a storage unit for storing data relating to prevalence of criteria associated with said risk classes,
wherein said dividing unit determines the relative risk ratio based on the data relating to prevalence of the criteria associated with said risk classes ~~for use in determining the relative risk ratios~~.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 26, further comprising:
a comparison unit for comparing the prevalence data to industry empirical data for particular combinations of criteria; and
an adjustment unit for adjusting the stored data to agree with the empirical data.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 21, further comprising:
a storage unit for storing data relating to the expected occurrence rates,
wherein said dividing unit determines the relative risk ratio based on the data relating to the expected occurrence rates ~~for use in determining the relative risk ratios~~.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 28, further comprising:
an adjustment unit for adjusting the corrected risk ratios ~~to~~ such that the corrected risk ratios agree with the empirical data.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 21, wherein said one or more risk classes are associated with one or more criteria, and further comprising:
a calculation unit ~~for using the relative risk ratio to determine~~ that determines an impact on a risk class of including in that class one or more risks that do not meet one or more of the criteria based on the relative risk ratios.

Claims 31-43 (Cancelled).

Claim 44 (Currently Amended): A system having a hardware processor for evaluating an individual risk for inclusion in, or exclusion from, a risk class associated with a financial product, comprising:

an identifying unit operating as an input device of the system ~~on the hardware processor~~ for identifying one or more risk classes associated with the financial product;

a first determining unit operating on the hardware processor for determining, for at least one of the risk classes, a relative risk ratio;

a second determining unit operating on the hardware processor for determining, for an individual risk, a relative risk ratio;

a comparing unit operating on the hardware processor for comparing the relative risk ratio of the individual to the relative risk ratio of the risk class and to determine ~~determining a~~ class ratio; and

a third determining unit operating on the hardware processor for excluding the

individual risk from the risk class, in a case where the comparing unit has determined that the class ratio is out of a defined range in comparison with pre-stored empirical data.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 44, wherein one or more of said risk classes are associated with a plurality of criteria, and further comprising:

a fourth determining unit for determining relative risk ratios for subgroups of criteria.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 45, wherein said means for comparing the relative risk ratio of the individual to the relative risk ratio of the risk class comprises:

a comparing unit for comparing the relative risk ratio of the individual to one or more of the relative risk ratios determined for the subgroups of criteria.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The method of characterizing relative risks according to claim 3, wherein the different criteria used for the risk classes are diastolic blood pressure and systolic blood pressure.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): The system according to claim 23, wherein the different criteria used for the risk classes are diastolic blood pressure and systolic blood pressure.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): The system according to claim 45, wherein the different criteria used for the risk classes are diastolic blood pressure and systolic blood pressure.